

FY2022 Annual Report (5) Recommendations

1. **Consider ICAB's request for a \$200,000 increase in appropriations which would allow us to fill vacant positions.**
2. **Consider ICAB's request for a \$295,000 increase in appropriations to enhance capacity to serve children for one CASA program and one FCRB program in areas where we either currently have no programming or we are at capacity, leaving children unserved.**
3. CASA of Iowa has several programs/areas identified in a study for growth and expansion due to the number of children unserved in our state. This study was initiated by the National CASA/GAL Association and was conducted by the Center for Children and Family Studies College of Social Work as part of the National Association's goal of ensuring all eligible children across the nation receive CASA services by 2030. **We recommend the State of Iowa support this goal by funding this initiative.**
4. While there has been some improvement in areas of case permanency planning, data from citizen foster care reviews continue to indicate a low percentage of cases where transition planning has been started in a timely manner for youth aged 14+. **The Child Advocacy Board recommends that the Department of Health and Human Services ensure transition planning is initiated and carried out for all children 14+ years to include completion of the Casey Life Skills Assessment.** It is suggested that the Department conduct a quality assessment of cases to identify and remedy gaps in the transition planning process across the state.
5. **ICAB advocates for continued and improved communication between us and Department of Human Services staff.**